

April 11, 1973

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, and members of the legislature to adopt this you will, excuse me, will be one of the most dastardly things the legislature could do. If it would require only 25 votes to pass a bill, which is the greatest thing and the most potent act that the legislature can perform, why should it take more votes than that to bring a bill before the legislature, in the first place. I think that what Senator Duis and those in favor of the rule change might be trying to do, is prevent trivial actions and attempts to raise bills which may not have merit, but if 25 members can be persuaded to see that a bill has enough merit to come before the legislature, and those same 25 are all that is required to pass it, I think that should be sufficient, so I'm speaking against this rule change.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Proud.

SENATOR PROUD: Well Mr. President in this regard I'd have to agree with Senator Chambers, because we all know about the committee system, it's not the greatest thing in the world, but if you have a member or two members on a committee, in fact I would say member, who is violently opposed to any certain bill, or violently for it, the chances are mathematically that he or she is going to get their way. Also, this is a body of conflicting interests and all committee members do have those conflicts, you can't avoid them, and so if we do have a conflict you might be a little stronger one way or another, but we know that under our committee system that it has some defects. I don't know how you cure them, unless you have a full time legislature and remove all conflicts of interests, and it is my own feeling that any time you've got 25 votes in this body, that's the way it ought to be, and you shouldn't be left to the mercy of 5 people on a committee because that's usually where the control is.

PRESIDENT: Senator Simpson.

SENATOR SIMPSON: Mr. President and members of the legislature, I also would oppose the rule change. If it was such that it would take the same number of votes as it would take to pass such a bill, then I would not object whether it be 25 in some cases 30 in others and so on then I could not object, but when you, just that a amount for the all bills, I don't think that this is in the best interest, that we should do it this way.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter, then Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I move the rule change be rejected.

PRESIDENT: Okay, Senator Stahmer. Pardon me. Now Senator Duis, the motion is to reject the rule change.

SENATOR DUIS: That is of course, is alright with me, except Senator Epke who proposed the rule change is not here and I'm sure he will abide by whatever decision the legislature at the present time, so I call for the question.

PRESIDENT: Well Senator Carpenter I'm going to declare your motion out of order here, because after all if you don't want the rule change you can vote against the rule change that has been proposed and there is no reason to take a motion to reject the rule change at this time. Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Previous question.

PRESIDENT: Alright the previous question has been called to the Chair, do I see five hands. The question is shall the debate now close, all those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote no. The motion is to cease debate. Okay the Clerk will record.